


From: [Richard Fetzer](#)
To: heston.gerald@epa.gov
Cc: carney.dennis@epa.gov
Subject: Fw: Carter data
Date: 02/07/2012 10:51 AM
Attachments: [Carter_12_0207.xlsx](#)

Jerry,

Here's the information that Ron wanted us to look up on the  historical arsenic levels.

It looks like their range was from 2.2ug/L to 5ug/L

Below are also two articles where Cabot admitted causing this data mistake.

EPA sampled the  well on 1/25/12. As you know we are still working through getting final fully validated results to a point of being released. The  prelims show As at 7.6 ug/L unfiltered. and 6.3 ug/L filtered.

[Cabot: Recording error caused false arsenic result](#)

SCRANTON TIMES-TRIBUNE (Saturday) A high arsenic reading that a natural gas driller mistakenly attributed to the Montrose public water supply this week was in fact caused by a recording error when handwritten field notes were typed into the driller's database, Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. said Friday. The sample, which actually contained none of the chemical, was taken from water drawn from Pennsylvania American Water's Lake Montrose treatment plant and trucked to Dimock Twp. in August 2010 as a replacement for well water found to have been tainted with methane from drilling operations. Test results that found no arsenic in the water were recorded properly by a Cabot contractor in the field, spokesman George Stark said Friday. But somehow the numbers for the arsenic and barium readings were switched when the data was uploaded to a computer. The company apologized for the error. Pennsylvania American Water asked for a review of the test data after Cabot released a statement Tuesday alleging arsenic nearly four times the federal drinking water limit originated from the utility's Montrose system - a claim the utility rebutted with six years of tests showing no evidence of arsenic in the public water. "We are glad that Cabot reviewed their records, identified the error, and clarified this information," spokeswoman Susan Turcmanovich said. "However, we feel they should have done a more thorough analysis of the information prior to issuing such a serious allegation." Cabot made the claim as it criticized federal regulators' interpretation of the same data. The Environmental Protection Agency attributed the sample to a Dimock water well during its review of past water tests and the high arsenic level prompted the agency to provide replacement water to the home. The EPA is delivering water to four homes and testing as many as 66 as it investigates potential contamination from gas drilling in a 9-square-mile area of Dimock.

[Cabot admits its Dimock water arsenic claim was a mistake](#)

HARRISBURG PATRIOT-NEWS (Saturday) The arsenic Cabot Oil & Gas recently said was not in the water in Dimock wasn't even arsenic. It's the Abbott and

Costello “Who’s On First?” routine, Marcellus style. Cabot drilled wells in Dimock. Local residents’ well water suddenly began to spit and fizzle with natural gas. Pennsylvania’s Department of Environmental Protection fined Cabot and made the company make arrangements for paying for water treatment systems at the homes. Some residents refused, choosing instead to sue Cabot. They said their wells were also contaminated with chemicals used in drilling. Cabot said that wasn’t so. DEP agreed. Lots of tests were done. An independent study by researchers at Duke University found gas but no chemicals. The residents did their own tests, and took their concerns to the federal Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA agreed with DEP. Then it didn’t. The EPA announced it would do its own testing and it would arrange for emergency water for four homes. It said it was doing that because some of the old test results concerned them. One test indicated a high level of arsenic. Cabot said the arsenic reading didn’t come from the Dimock water, but rather from the Montrose public water system in water delivered to Dimock residents. Pennsylvania American Water, which owns the Montrose public water system, said that was bunk. Their water doesn’t contain any arsenic, they said. Cabot stood by its claim. Then it didn’t. On Friday, Cabot announced, “Our review found a transcription error revealing that the values for arsenic and barium were transposed in the report. There was no arsenic found in this sample from the Montrose public water supply. We apologize for this error.”

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----- Forwarded by Richard Fetzer/R3/USEPA/US on 02/07/2012 10:40 AM -----

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Date: 02/07/2012 09:50 AM
Subject: Carter data

Suddha-

Here's what I have for [Ex. 5 - Personal Privacy] I wasn't sure which [Ex. 5 - Personal Privacy] (8a or 8b), so I just included everything. Looks like there was some sampling for Arsenic in Aug 2011. I'm still working on getting the final deliverable into Scribe but I will send you that information as soon as I can.

Thanks-
Stephanie

